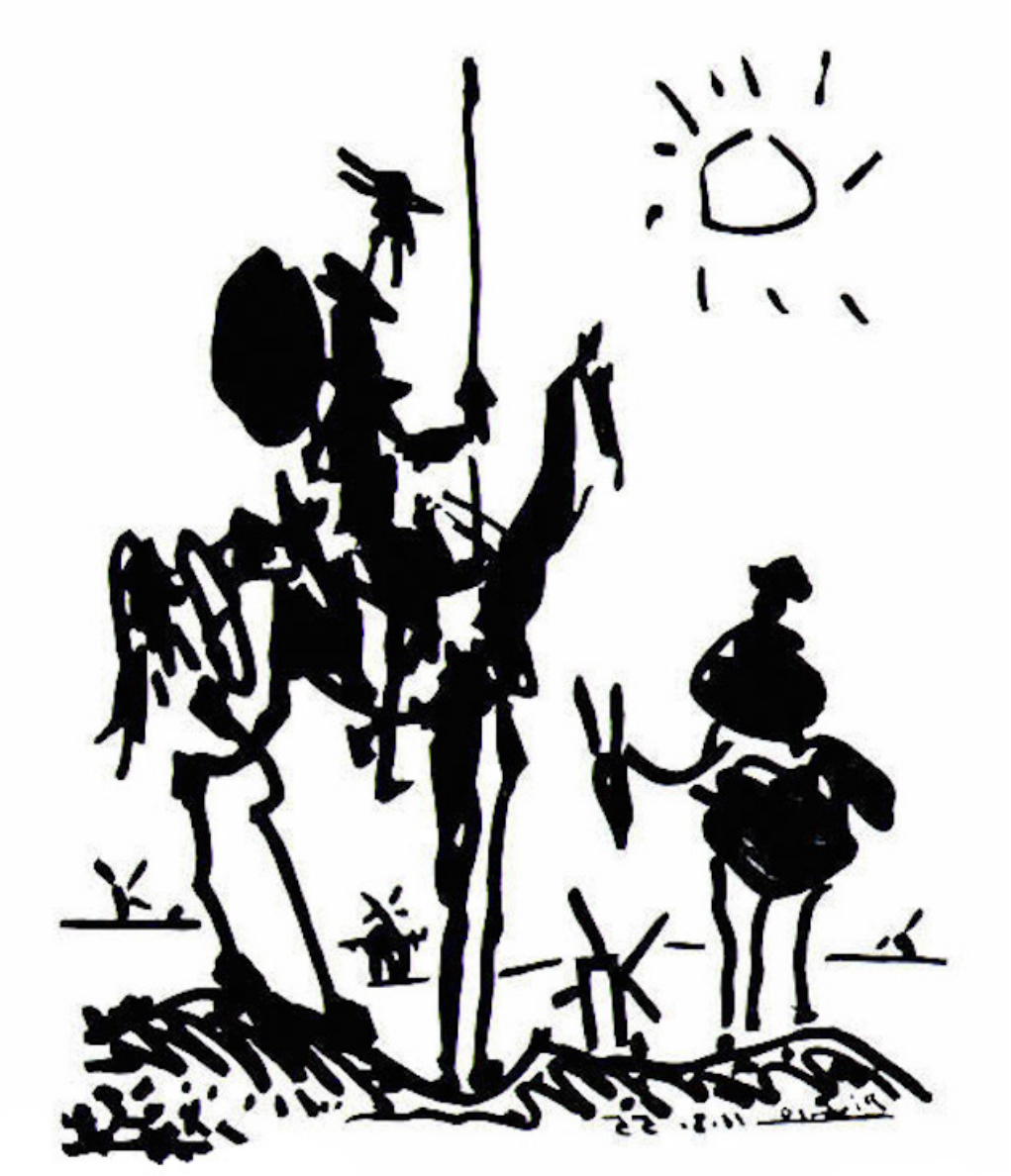
Doubt, Doubt & More Doubt



MICHAEL J. HOLSHOUSER

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Pronunciation: Holtzhowzer

All have the express written encouragement
To distribute this creation freely to any and all
Who have the eyes to see and the ears to hear
The mystery in which each and every one
Equally participates in so many ways

Table of Contents

Preface … 4

The Stillness Before Time … 13

The Ponderings of Yaj Ekim … 14

Breadcrumbs 2015 … 23

Breadcrumbs 2018 … 34

Breadcrumbs 2019 … 40

Breadcrumbs 2020 … 43

Breadcrumbs 2021 … 46

Breadcrumbs 2022 … 55

Breadcrumbs 2023 & Beyond (Under Construction) … 61

The Return to Wonder (Under Construction) … 62

Titles, Titles & More Titles … 63

Definitions … 65

Stay Tuned … 71

Preface

Greetings,

While responding to an online friend's questions about my thoughts on doubt, it occurred to me to take a look at all that had been written about it since I began scribing in 1989. Another friend had suggested this a few years back, and I had set it on the back-burner of possible projects. As might be expected, the creative juices took hold, and this is the PDF result, with a rabbit hole wander of thoughts from all the major titles: The Stillness Before Time, The Ponderings of Yaj Ekim, the seven Breadcrumbs titles, and The Return to Wonder.

This work is blogged at:

Doubt, Doubt & More Doubt
https://doubtdoubtandmoredoubt.blogspot.com/

Writing has been an enjoyable process ever since I first began toying with prose; scribbling poetry, keeping journals, corresponding with friends and acquaintances during the college daze. The philosophical/mystical/whatever-you-want-to-call-them thoughts, that have been popping into mind since 1989, have always been very out-of-the-blue spontaneous. Nothing planned or forced about them. They are being shared on the off chance that others may find them of interest, though, quite frankly, it really does not matter if no one else ever even reads them, for I am, first and foremost, my own audience. I got mine, so to speak. I played my little part. I had my share of fun. And it is, as it has ever been, up to each to discern their own, on their own.

There are really no followers in this Don Quixote quest; only earnest seekers, who waylay their desires and fears and dreads, enough to discern that which is the end to doubt, the end to dueling with windmills. "Yay" if it is your fate to figure it out. "Oh well" if it is not. And "so it goes" either way, really. Ecclesiastes 1:2 is always a good reminder: "Vanity of vanities," saith the Preacher, "Vanity of vanities. All is vanity." Awareness can only, with great effort, regain control, regain sovereignty, from the usurper, imagination, creator of all that is time, creator of all that is space. Creator of all that is illusion, has never been anything more than illusion, will never be anything more than illusion. Only as real as the given moment.

"The Stillness Before Time" is the original work that came together in 1992, including mostly aphorisms, an essay, a newspaper question-and-answer, ten reflections, and lists of both movies and books. Though an early self-published version, long since edited and expanded, can be purchased at major booksellers, a downloadable copy is available, no charge, at the link below. There are also links to a variety of blogs of other creations by me, along with links to many writings of a similar nature, by thinkers and seers from across all times, across all geographies. "The Ponderings of Yaj Ekim" is the second published book, and is both blogged and available as a PDF download.

The "Breadcrumbs" titles, published annually since 2015, all include the core chapters: Leftovers, Soundbites, Breadcrumbs. In the Breadcrumbs chapters, I unleash thoughts of a more personal nature than in the other two. All just to show I was ensconced in a living, breathing, relativity mundane, oftentimes foolish, mortal mind-body. An actor playing the hand that was dealt; same as everyone else, vain as everyone else. No need to sculpt me into more than I was. No need for myths, nor legends, nor fables, nor miracles, nor cult followings, nor any other fictions, any other absurdities, over to which the human mind,

and all its imaginary history, has so often given itself. The Breadcrumbs chapters prove me again and again to be yet another Shakespearian player, as full of the limited and arbitrary as anyone else born into this dream of space and time. So please be sure not to shape me, or these many random thoughts, into some dogmatic absurdity. Use them as a launchpad, not an orbit.

"The Return to Wonder" blog is a compendium of aphorisms not included in the three other works: The Stillness Before Time, The Ponderings of Yaj Ekim, and Breadcrumbs. It originally totaled 3,000 pages formatted in 300 ten-page chapters written since 1990-ish. A gradual editing that will likely never be completed, is changing that dynamic into something of a mishmash.

Please note that this sort of wordplay is very haphazard, way too much work to put into any order. Probably best read it in bits and pieces in the here and there. One of those open-to-any-page works. Especially well-suited for coffee shops, coffee tables, and porcelain thrones.

Also note that all writings are always subject to updates and editing, so if you are interested in the most current version – before this house of cards comes tumbling down, and the world grows large again – downloading PDF copies every once and a while might be a reasonable discipline. This applies especially to the current year of Breadcrumbs, which could well be an annual project until the last wheezing breath, though frankly, the temptation to stop writing entirely is not off the table. It is a pleasant way to pass some of the countdown remaining, but it is unlikely there is much ground that has not been wandered by this frame of reference far more than enough already. No matter how many times Sisyphus rolls the boulder up the mountain, it is more than a little doubtful that the blind men and their true-believer followers, will ever discern, ever realize, ever embrace, the elephant in the middle of the room, without fabricating some new form of absurdity. It is the way we roll, it is the way we have always rolled, it is the way we will, far more than probably, always roll. Every species has its limitations, and we have in this mind's eye, far-exceeded ours.

That said, if you do find these many thoughts at all worth preserving, for whatever times are ahead for this world and all its life forms, please feel free to share them with others who might also appreciate them. Else they may well swiftly slip back into the timeless oblivion from whence they came.

So it goes, either way. I played my part, I said my piece, I had my fun.

All the best,

M

P.S. For best viewing online, using the largest screen you have available to explore my little theme park, is suggested. Scrolling down and down on a phone screen is just not going to give you the same entrée.

P.P.S. The keywords used to select the following content include: Doubt, Skeptic, Cynic, Disbeliever.

P.P.P.S. Regarding the name Yaj Ekim ... It is just a reverse spelling of the first and middle names ... Michael Jay Holshouser ... Mike Jay ... Yaj Ekim.

P.P.P.P.S. Coincidently, make of it whatever you will, or will not, Yaj is an Indian boy's name meaning worshipper, sacrifice, another name for Shiva, a sage. And Ekim is a Turkish name for October meaning "sowing" (of seeds). All kinds of absurdity can be read into that by the many so-inclined – none of which was in mind when I came up with the idea to reverse the letters to my name. See P.P.P.S. for details.

P.P.P.P.P.S. Yes, I am Shiva. And so are You. No, I am not Shiva. And neither are you. Irony and paradox rule.

The Stillness Before Time
Reflections From a Fellow Sojourner

There is really only one Way.
It is without division or boundary.
It is without name or theology.
Awareness is its scripture.
Here now, its venue.
You, its witness.
Your life, the journey.

Website
https://thestillnessbeforetime.com

Blog
https://thestillnessbeforetime.blogspot.com

PDF
https://thestillnessbeforetime.com/thestillnessbeforetime.pdf

The Original Works

The Stillness Before Time,
Reflections From a Fellow Sojourner
https://thestillnessbeforetime.blogspot.com
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Including:
Of the Human Journey
Got God?
Ten Reflections

The Ponderings of Yaj Ekim
https://theponderingsofyajekim.blogspot.com
https://thestillnessbeforetime.com/theponderingsofyajekim.pdf

Breadcrumbs 2015
Bits and Pieces From a Dream of Time
https://breadcrumbs2015.blogspot.com
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Breadcrumbs 2018
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Breadcrumbs 2023 & Beyond
Bits and Pieces From a Dream of Time
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The Return to Wonder
Field Notes from the Unknown
(Major edit underway – New copy colored blue and green)
https://thereturntowonder.blogspot.com
https://thestillnessbeforetime.com/thereturntowonder.pdf

The Derivative Collection

Aftershocks Autumn 2024
https://aftershocksautumn2024.blogspot.com
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Frames of Reference
Peering Through the Windows of Perception
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Imagination: The Great Usurper
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Jesus on Prophets
What Any Seer Likely Faces Returning to the Cave of Origin
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Lost in Translation
The Human Paradigm's Linguistic Muddle
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Michael's Rabbit Hole
A Selection of Breadcrumbs & Other Aphorisms
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Of Meaning & Purpose
Ponderings About the Futility of It All
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Of Noise & Silence
Contemplations on the Vibrations of Consciousness
https://ofnoiseandsilence.blogspot.com
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Standouts From the Return to Wonder Edit
Selections From the First Sixteen Chapters
https://standoutsfromthereturntowonderedit.blogspot.com
https://thestillnessbeforetime.com/standouts.pdf

The Call of the Eternal
A Conversation With My Self
https://thecalloftheeternal.blogspot.com
https://www.thestillnessbeforetime.com/thecalloftheeternal.pdf

The Gordian Knot of Ethical Thinking
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The 'And More' Collection

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The Mystery of the Mystery
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The Real is Discovering
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To Be, or Not to Be
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Who Was the First?
https://thewhowasthefirstseries.blogspot.com
https://thestillnessbeforetime.com/thewhowasthefirstseries.pdf

The Sidebar Collection

A Short List of Books for the Up and Coming
Some Written Works That May Help Get the Young Up to Speed
https://listofbooksfortheupandcoming.blogspot.com
https://thestillnessbeforetime.com/ashortlistofbooksfortheupandcoming.pdf

Breadcrumbs: The Original Blog
https://michaelsbreadcrumbs.blogspot.com/2015/01/under-construction_28.html

Conversations
A Variety of Letters, Emails, Texts, & Sundry Odds 'n Ends
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https://thestillnessbeforetime.com/conversations.pdf

Definitions
An Incomplete Selection of Contemplative Definitions
https://definitionsyajekim.blogspot.com
https://thestillnessbeforetime.com/definitions.pdf

Ditties for the Bluegrass Pyre
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Jester Amok
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https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.1311100495387&type=3

My (Not Quite) Haiku
https://mynotquitehaiku.blogspot.com
https://thestillnessbeforetime.com/mynotquitehaiku.pdf

Once Upon a Christmas
https://onceuponchristmas.blogspot.com
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Possible Last Words & Epitaphs
https://possiblelastwordsandepitaphs.blogspot.com
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Sketches of the Once Upon a Time
A Few Epiphanies and Other Hallmark Moments
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https://thestillnessbeforetime.com/sketchesoftheonceuponatime.pdf

Spam Responses (a.k.a., WTF Is This Shit!?)
https://spamresponsesakawtfisthisshit.blogspot.com
https://thestillnessbeforetime.com/spamresponsesakawtfisthisshit.pdf

The Corollaries of Yaj Ekim
https://corollariesyajekim.blogspot.com
https://thestillnessbeforetime.com/thecorollariesofyajekim.pdf

The Standard Ripostes
The Scribe's Go-to Responses to This and That in the Day-To-Day
https://thestandardripostes.blogspot.com
https://thestillnessbeforetime.com/thestandardripostes.pdf

Uncle Sam Says
https://whatunclesamsays.blogspot.com
https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.1311088415085&type=3

(Please note all writings are subject to annual updates and editing, so downloading current PDF copies every once and a while, might be a good idea if You want the most current version)

The Stillness Before Time

I

When in every moment
You see without a trace of doubt
That there is no master other than you,
That those many pedestaled images of great souls
Were projections of the inherent longing
To awaken to the birthright
That is prior to consciousness,
You will be free of artificial limits,
You will have triumphed over illusion,
You will have discovered the indelible truth:
That you are, indeed, sovereign, indivisibly absolute.

III

You who seek are already that which is sought.
You are the unequivocal source, the mystery, pure and simple.
Discerning it clearly in the everyday, without a trace of doubt, is the challenge.

VI

Surrender your identity:
Your concepts and cravings,
Your fears, irritations, and doubts,
Your knowledge, opinions, and routines,
Your ambitions to achieve one glory or another.
Surrender everything you believe you are,
That you have never really been.

The Ponderings of Yaj Ekim

38

Sooner or later, our little creation will crash and burn.
So it goes, deal with it, get over it, move on.
Just be ready to roll with the punches,
When Mother Gaia lays down her one and only law,
And proves beyond any doubt, what has always really been in charge.

39

No doubt we can probably all afford,
To be a bit less pretentious, a smidgen more humble,
Considering the entire universe may well be,
About as significant as a grain of sand,
In the breadth and depth of it all.

44

It takes a great deal of mettle,
To doubt to the essential core of awareness.
Immortal fare is not for the meek who will inherit the earth,
And the dreaming it every moment inspires.

50

Any Supreme Being must surely be an amalgamation of all the greats:
Santa Claus, the Tooth Fairy, the Easter Bunny, Superman,
Harvey, Peter Pan, Tinker Bell, and Captain Hook.
Much easier to accept any given phantasm,
Than to doubt to the nth degree.

58

It is suffering that compels us to scrutinize our universes more closely.
We were all immortal before the manifest dream inspired us to doubt otherwise.
What a master teacher, pain, in all its ever-changing ways and means,
For as long as its lessons can be endured, and survived.

62

What a baffling, vexing, amazing, even astonishing thing,
To run into supposedly intelligent people who lack the doubt,
And are harbor to the critical thinking capacity of potato heads,
When it comes to superstition, and so many other absurdities.
How is it we have survived ourselves as long as we have?

68

The realized state cannot be forced, it cannot be persuaded.
Wisdom and insight are obviously not for all.
There is no use seeking something,
For which there is not the catalyst of doubt.

82

Doubt until there is nothing left to doubt.

88

To all who truly, earnestly doubt,
It is You, you truly pursue,
In that awareness, so matchless,
Where all trails end, at the end of You.

100

Imagine, if from your beginning,
You were among a modest, wise people,
Who clearly imparted that You were the mystery.
That You were the epicenter of your individual universe.
A guardian of this garden, and that the entire universe about You,
Was filled with teachers, each valued for their gift, whatever it might be.
And that You were also one of their teachers, likewise valued, likewise ordained.
Imagine that You were brought up with the certainty, that each and every fellow life form,
From the very smallest to the very largest, are all kin in the highest sense,
And that You are a solitary witness to the eternal song of mystery,
Never to doubt, even once, that You are truly of the One.

106

What is life for the pessimist but brief moments of serenity between great bouts of irritability.

110

Born to see it clearly or not, born to realize it beyond doubt or not,
Rest assured, rest content, rest absolute, in the good news,
That You are it, have ever been it, will ever be it.

111

You cannot free your Self without a healthy dose of doubt.

114

An absolute wellspring of irony, of paradox, of doubt, of absurdity;
Is what You must be, to wantonly, to brazenly, to fearlessly, to recklessly,
Peer prior to the sensory mind, behind the imaginary veil, of this vaporous Oz.

116

How can you help anyone who lacks the wit and courage to doubt?

133

Those many who harbor in hope,
Should beware the cynic whose light shines bright,
Upon the countless absurdities, that run amok in human mind and deed.

141

If your concept of a deity does not incorporate you as more than a sheep,
To be herded to and fro, in some groupthink-follower collective,
Then perhaps you need to incite some serious doubting,
For a very up-the-ante, worldview change-up.
Slap your Self, so to speak, very hard.

142

That so many maltreat others, in so many cruel ways, is beyond all reckoning.
Some abide the barbarity through stoic cynicism and ironic repartee,
And others through compassionate, selfless, heartfelt service.
The human dreamscape finds time and place for all.

149

We must each wander alone, through the decline, toward the demise.
Coping can include cynicism, stoicism, fatalism, absurdity, conviction.

165

Soul gorp for those who doubt; those who fathom irony and paradox.

167

Earth is earth, wind is wind, water is water, fire is fire.
Once you, without doubt, without equivocation, fully understand this,
And that these forces interact in every way imaginable,
And that you are eternal witness to it all,
What else is there to know?

168

Doubt until truth,
Becomes so Self-evident,
That all doubt dissolves into You.

177

As doubt seeps through the many cracks of the dike You have in mind erected,
You can run, but You cannot hide; like it or no, You are embarked upon an odyssey within.
You have the potential to be a Buddha, a Christ, a whatever-You-want-to-call-it,
If You can just get past the countless limitations of idolatry and dogma.

184

What inquiry can there really be, without unquenchable skepticism?

185

Identification with the body has created all this absurdity.
No doubt, that it is a good idea, to take reasonable care of it,
Elsewise, it will cause you no end of distraction of a lesser kind.

211

Irony and paradox, the keys to unraveling doubt.

242

Another day witnessing the monkey-mind play itself out.
Mass delusion and insanity on a worldwide scale.
No doubt any aliens watching us have plans,
To keep the contagion from spreading.

243

To those attached to one dogma or another,
You are either all right, or you are all wrong.
We all have to come from the same beginning,
And all assertions about it, are utterly meaningless.
So, drop the inanity, roll out the doubt, and figure it out.

246

From the now so-long-ago entry into this dream world,
You have been conditioned to believe so many things truly matter,
And have gradually discerned many of them, if not all,
To indeed be very dubious assumptions.
Where to now, Pilgrim,
Now that doubt is your filament?

248

Some are blessed, though many might argue, cursed beyond measure,
With a sense of doubt, with a capacity for irony and paradox,
With a skeptical wit that gradually transports them,
Into a transcendent, indivisible no-mind.
A rare fate, this return to wonder,
To which all are beckoned, few are chosen.

256

Endlessly fascinating how some cannot help but doubt,
While others are, even to the point of savagery, entirely incapable of it:
"What!? Make me think!? Make me question!? How dare you!! Infidel!! I will kill you!!"

260

The infant begins with no knowledge,
Of what it is seeing, hearing, touching. tasting, or smelling.
Over time, the collusion into which it has been cast, will sculpt it to its own ends.
Few will likely ever doubt with enough abide-alone courage,
To decline and return to the natural state.

262

Ignorance, being its own distorted, corrupt end;
There is really very little point in debating with any true believer.
If someone is seething dogma about anything fashioned of this manifest dreamtime,
Then it is no doubt much less bothersome to put them behind you,
And just walkabout some other direction.

269

The doubt of your doubt by others,
Can be an undermining, infecting snare.
The quest for certainty is a solitary pursuit.
You may spark others, but must ever be vigilant,
Lest the flame be inadvertently damped by ignorance.

270

To be imbued with certainty, to be without even a smidgeon of doubt,
How is that even vaguely, remotely, figuratively, tenuously possible?

282

The gentle cynic is indifferently agnostic.

293

The lack of doubt is a wall that cannot be surmounted.

296

Idolatry and dogma are the barren harvest of those who lack the seed of doubt.

299

A most challenging thing, not to grow more inflexible,
More harsh, more cynical, as the world daily takes its toll.
To be as a child; innocent, free, untainted, uncarved, unbroken;
Is a momentary awareness, only timeless minds realize.

306

Challenging as it all too often is,
Try not to be too blinded by your cynicism.
Despite the play and its players,
There is wonder in it all.

314

Who can say who or what or when or where or why or how,
The seeds of doubt are planted, take root, get watered, and grow to fruition.
It is, as all things ever are, the same ineffable mystery from all beginnings to all endings.

322

Few are inflicted with the great doubt,
That eventually conveys them all the way back,
To the ephemeral awareness prior to all consciousness.
So many temptations, so many distractions, so many delusions,
On the long and winding ever here now road home.

325

What makes no sense to most,
May be the only thing that does to You.
Standing completely alone, is really the only option,
For those whose doubting, discerns the truth within and without.

327

Only non-followers, non-believers, non-identifiers,
Those courageous and intelligent and skeptical enough, to stand alone,
Will ever have the doubting wit to discern the truth of it.
Many are called, but few are chosen.

336

Without the subtlety of great doubt, truth is veiled,
Behind every conceivable whim of imagination.

341

The smug, self-righteous arrogance of true believers,
Likely propels many a doubter even further afield.

343

What could be more yawn than sitting alone on a cloud,
Occasionally flapping a couple useless wings,
Trying to learn how to play a harp?
At least some of that fat,
Might get burnt off carousing in hell.
Going to be one heck of a wild and crazy, no doubt.

356

Buy into a meme, and your life will whirl,
Its constricted pattern for the rest of your existence.
Doubt is the saving grace from a mind chock-full of absurdity.

359

How can anyone look at all these fellow creatures small to great,
And not, without doubt, discern the obvious fact, that within each and every one,
Is the same indelible source, the same awareness, the same intelligence?
That all are the same omnipresent, omniscient witness as you.

366

What is required to awaken,
Is to inwardly pay very close attention,
In a non-intellectual, prior-to-consciousness way,
Until you very logically, without doubt, discern for your Self,
That you, the witness, the observer, are the observed.
All duality is the concoction of imagination.

371

Doubt cannot be transplanted.

387

Why do you doubt your light?
Why do you doubt your truth?
Why do you doubt your Self?

415

Freedom is in the doubting of everything imagined.

417

Who was that masked
Infant … child … adolescent … adult?
One in the same, no doubt.

423

If you do not doubt,
You may well mindlessly accept,
Traditions, dogmas, rituals, symbols, superstitions,
And delusional ignorance in general,
As the mainstays
Of that which is truth alone.

435

Surrounded as you are by the sensory play,
An ether replete with earth and air and water and fire,
You are, You have ever been, You will ever be,
Totally, without doubt, completely alone.

449

What is it like to be so without doubt, so uncritical, so unskeptical,
As to be all together complacent, consenting, to the given propaganda?
What are the circumstances, the dynamics, that fashion the true believer?

454

Doubt until you doubt it not.

461

There are, no doubt, many, many extraordinary,
Inexplicable moments in any existence.
Porcelain thrones are like that.

478

The ultimate truth, by whatever metaphors are used to describe it, is unquestionable,
Undoubtable, indisputable, unarguable, undebatable, incontestable, undeniable, irrefutable,
Incontrovertible, unmistakable, unequivocal, certain, sure, positive, definite, absolute, conclusive,
Watertight, ironclad; beyond doubt, beyond the shadow of a doubt, beyond dispute,
Beyond question, not in question, not in doubt, sure as shootin'.

480

To accept blindly is foolish; to doubt rationally is prudent.
Why should you accept anything you have not discerned for your Self?
Why accept any fable, any myth, any legend, any folktale, any fairytale, any invention,
Without some reservation, some critical inquiry, some judicious oversight?

486

As with any organism small to great born into this whirling garden world,
Human consciousness seeks out similar wavelengths within the spectrum of possibilities,
Thus preserving, spreading whatever perceptions, whatever memes, are harbored in the given mindset.
To discern one's conditioning, and perchance to be free of it, or at least attentive to it,
Requires a skeptical, introspective nature of the highest order.

491

All the so-called scriptures were written by seers and sages,
Really no different than anyone who has pondered existence before or since.
We are all cousins of the same puddle, responding to the life and times into which we are cast.
The geography, culture, language, technology, and on and on, are inevitably different,
But guaranteed, beyond all doubt, we are all very much the same monkey-mind,
And prior to that, very much the same quantum stardust of all creation.
It is but a veiled, temporal play, in which the myriad players,
Are, in the ultimate eternal reality, one in the same.

Breadcrumbs 2015

Leftovers

To become a skeptic, a cynic, a doubter, an agnostic, one becomes an adversary of delusion,
An antagonist to the fallacies of mythology, superstition, and other cultural assumptions.
The mind of the critical thinker is its own reflection of what is real, and what is not.

* * * *

Everyone believes whatever falsehoods they want to believe,
Until doubt perhaps slowly sprouts in one cranny, one nook or another.
And from that moment on, who knows where the long and winding road will lead.

* * * *

You cannot help but see the truth
That is every moment within and without you,
If you have enough doubt, enough skepticism, to erase the fear.

* * * *

Yes, there is no doubt God created this infinite universe
So that so many could be unimaginably stupid about it.

* * * *

Another legend in his/her own lizard mind.
Any insect would no doubt think the same.

* * * *

Were you not so attached to all the perceptions about your imaginary cosmos,
Of the given existence it could doubtless be asked: Did it ever really happen?

* * * *

It is all nothing, and no something, no matter how enticing, no matter how convincing,
Will long detain the earnest seeker from discerning that which is beyond all doubts true.

* * * *

From the innocence and optimism of youth, to the distortion and skepticism of old age;
Through it all we must mindfully cultivate our garden, and sow whatever time allows.

* * * *

The fate of those without great doubt is to wander in the miasma of time.
The only thing that can save any from such a temporal destiny
Is if they possess the eyes that see, the ears that hear,
The many clues, the many tips, the many hints,
That surround each and every one in their daily wander.
It is a many-are-called-few-are-chosen-fewer-still-volunteer endeavor.

* * * *

One must somehow realize a certain sense of irony and paradox,
A certain shade of doubt, of disbelief, of qualm, to see at all clearly.

* * * *

What is the raison d'être of a puzzle, a riddle, a brainteaser, a koan,
But to sharpen the wit for whatever adventures may come.
It is the playing ground, the training ground, the doubting ground,
Of the critical thinker, the pessimist, the skeptic, the cynic, the seeker of truth.

* * * *

To awaken to eternity, you, the inexplicable awareness,
Must doubt everything to such a great degree
As to be able to shake off the mind and senses entirely.
To become so inwardly at peace as to be neither mind nor body.
A state of timeless beingness for which few have either capacity or inclination.

* * * *

How can anyone who has any wit, any savvy, any keenness, whatsoever,
Not doubt, not question, not think critically, is perhaps the greatest mystery.

* * * *

Doubt will carry you to whatever falsehood you can abide,
And then on to the next and the next and the next and the next and the next,
Until you finally achieve that eternal moment where there are no more untruths to be had,
That unutterable, timeless realization where you finally, indelibly discern
That you are, and have always been, and will ever be,
The way and the truth and the life.
There is no other,
Playing out every possibility.

* * * *

What need do those who have awakened,
Those who have transcended all doubt,
Those who wander in unburdened awareness,
Have for any questions, or the answers they project.

* * * *

In any given life there are some good decisions,
Some mediocre decisions, and some really bad decisions.
Regrets are no doubt piled high and cringing in any given mind.
Oh well, so it goes, deal with it, get over it, move on.

* * * *

To see the reality of this awareness clearly, to discern what you truly, undoubtedly, are,
You must have the concentration and fortitude of a tightrope walker crossing a canyon.

* * * *

It is the nature of reflective, earnest doubt that no lie will long suffice.
Once you embark on this solitary journey to discern the truth of this implacable mystery,
There will be a never-ending array of ever-enticing interruptions and diversions.
Every sort of blind alley, roadblock, dead end, and impasse imaginable.
But there will be no turning back, there will be no stopping.

* * * *

At some point in the hereness, at some point in the nowness,
Some minds, bit by bit, little by little, awaken to the given conditioning.
Awaken to the great doubt, the great question, and in that calamity of consciousness,
Begin a long and winding and solitary journey towards eternal reunion.

* * * *

Every culture across the world, across time,
Has indoctrinated its young to think a certain way.
All are imprisoned in one form of conditioning or another.
Even the greatest doubt must deal with the given mind.

* * * *

The weaving of doubt and negation are the magic carpet, the ruby slippers,
That will get you back to the integrity of the eternal mind,
The virtuousness of the eternal life.

* * * *

You want to hold onto everyone and everything so badly.
No doubt sand falling through fingers feels the same.

* * * *

To realize without doubt that you are the indivisible,
That you are not the temporal body or the universe it entails,
Is the supreme benediction, the paramount grace, existence can offer.

* * * *

The lazy mind is rarely a receptacle of doubt,
Or certainly of not more than the shallow sort.

* * * *

No one can rouse those who sleepwalk undoubting through their given reverie.
Awakening is a banquet to which all are invited, but for which few are earnestly ravenous.
The kaleidoscoping dreamtime of light and sound hypnotizes and seduces most.
You alone must strive to awaken in whatever way your mind allows.

* * * *

To be but timeless awareness,
To be but the source prior to all patterning,
Is a quest all who doubt must undertake very much alone.

* * * *

Die hungry or full, forlorn or content, foolish or wise,
It is discerning doubt that fashions the quality of mind.

* * * *

The cynic, the skeptic, the doubter – all seekers of truth,
Neither accepting or rejecting without judicious examination.
Scraping away what is false, using negation to discern what is true.

* * * *

What is death but the end of time, the end of space,
The return to the eternal indivisibility that all ever are.
Nothing to fear, nothing to doubt, simply the way it truly is.

* * * *

If there is to be any freedom in this relatively brief, corporeal existence,
The key, the fulcrum, the fount, upon which it is founded, is doubt.
And then only if its embers are fanned by the wind of an indomitable spirit.
There is no journey beyond the conditioning, no venture outside the cave, without it.

* * * *

If you are practicing some sort of idolatry, then you, my friend, are stuck.
If you have a conclusion founded on some sort of mythology,
Some sort of fairy tale, some sort of fantasy, some sort of mind gorp,
Then your doubt has stalled, and you are as stuck as imagination can enable.
The only question is whether you can rekindle the skepticism and carry on the quest.

* * * *

To quantify the quantum mystery as infinite or infinitesimal is all but absurd,
Once it is without doubt realized that the enigma of awareness is immeasurable.

* * * *

There are advocates and skeptics and fence-straddlers in every choice.
What proposition could ever even begin to remotely please every mind?

* * * *

Most human beings are mindlessly happy, mindlessly content,
With the given conditioning, the given frame of reference, the given idolatry.
To be a seer, doubt is required, and disbelief, skepticism, cynicism, are scarce commodities.
No point in trying to debate, to persuade, to convert, any true believer.
All must ultimately discern truth alone in their own way.
In other words, mind your own awareness.

* * * *

Abandon all regrets, all sorrows, all doubts, all frustrations,
All qualms, all misgivings, all hesitation, all shame,
All guilt, all grief, all distress, all burdens,
They are but imagination’s torment.

* * * *

Wisdom is the distillation of experience,
And critical thinking, doubt, skepticism, cynicism, are the ingredients
That unveil and unbridle the discerning brew.

* * * *

You can teach regurgitation,
But you cannot convey critical thinking.
You can teach knowledge, but you cannot transmit wisdom.
Skepticism is the rarest of commodities; it cannot be acquired by pick or shovel.
Far more precious than oil or gold or diamonds,
It's worth is priceless.

* * * *

These writings are for the rare few inclined to fully examine the underlying form of existence.
Best stop quickly if you lack the doubt, the skepticism, the cynicism, required.
Elsewise, you might find yourself down an infinite rabbit hole
For which you have neither hunger nor aptitude.

Soundbites

Doubt is a springboard, not an end in its Self.

* * * *

Despite its great virtue, doubt can only take you so far.

* * * *

We shall measure and prod ourselves, our world, our universe, to the bitter end, no doubt.

* * * *

Do not doubt your real voice.

* * * *

To be a critical thinker requires the seeds of doubt, and the wit to question deeply.

* * * *

Be awash in the timeless so as to be doubtless beyond all horizons.

* * * *

Doubt all until there is nothing left to doubt.

* * * *

The optimist's delusion, the cynic's joy, the pessimist's creed, the fool's preserve.

* * * *

Cynicism is just seeing things for what they are, not what they appear to be.

* * * *

Doubt is not something that can be inspired or forced.

* * * *

You do not need a piece of paper to doubt a lie.

* * * *

For what can any cynic hope but that this is a one-life stand?

* * * *

Faith abides delusion much more happily than doubt.

* * * *

To doubt, or not to doubt, that is the question.

* * * *

That most esoteric doubt launches many a mind into parts unknown.

* * * *

Wisdom is the flower of doubt, and doubt the esoteric seed.

* * * *

The seed of doubt, how will it flower?

* * * *

The intractable doubter settles for nothing less than the absoluteness of that which cannot be known.

* * * *

Doubt opens the door to truth; dogma is not required.

* * * *

The doubter doubts until all doubting is done.

* * * *

A lot of shoulda-coulda-woulda's in any given life, no doubt.

* * * *

The doubted path reigns supreme.

* * * *

Oh, ye of little doubt.

* * * *

Yet another day in the salt mines of perpetual doubt.

* * * *

The earnest doubter doubts until the doubting is done.

* * * *

What depth can there be to the superficial without the awakening of intuition and doubt.

Breadcrumbs

These many thoughts are left for humankind's unfolding reverie,
Written by a witness, a seer, who was born in 1953 A.D.
To what duration he cannot at this writing say.
Geographically, it was called Northern California
During the agricultural-industrial-technological epoch
Of the United States of America, a nation-state
In what seemed the zenith and early decline
Of civilization as he elected to perceive it.
But history knows many such epochs
So the accuracy of all predictions in time
Is for future scholars to ponder and pontificate,
As they always have, and undoubtedly, always will.

* * * *

No doubt all the conclusions, all the judgments about me are true
In a sideways-topsy-turvy-inside-out-convoluted-mangled sort of way.

* * * *

Here to inspire doubt to the nth degree.

* * * *

Trouble is, neither God nor the Devil know what to do with irreverent skeptics like me.
Puts the Grim Reaper in something of a "What if he wants my job?" quandary, as well.

* * * *

If you are a thinker, a doubter, a skeptic, a savant,
If you are one who ponders upon all things,
Then, my friend, this may be for you.

* * * *

Do not know more than the nitty-gritties of mathematics,
But how is it that zero is a number, much less a cardinal one?
No doubt many can illuminate it, but is it a harbor to what is real?
Is it really more than yet another useful but arbitrary notion?

* * * *

Even I doubt my Self as often as not.

* * * *

A somewhat cynical perspective
To those who embrace the optimism of hope.
Most definitely not a cheerleader for this world-o-drama.

* * * *

Had I brought children into this asylum,
They would have likely grown weary of me,
As many children no doubt do of their parents.

* * * *

Absolutely mad, mad beyond belief, of that there can be little doubt.

* * * *

Rest assured that the Great Quantum,
No doubt as wayward a roguish scalawag as I,
Finds my inflated bubble of dreamtime tolerably amusing.

* * * *

No doubt some would deposit this scribe in a shallow grave
If they were to comprehend these many thoughts are analogous
To the folktale of the lone stonecutter bit by bit by bit chipping away
Deep within the bowels of the imaginary mountain.

* * * *

Thinking positive is no doubt great, no doubt good,
And as soon as this mind discerns something positive
Upon which it might a-ponder, I will be a-gettin' to it.

* * * *

Bookstores and libraries and personal collections and landfills and burning piles,
Chock-full of books that relatively few ever even peruse, much less read.
Very little doubt the likely destiny of these many thoughts, as well.
Oh well, so it goes, dealt with it, got over it, moved on.
How pleasant it has been to read every word,
Many of them more than a few times.

* * * *

Derogatory, disparaging, critical, insulting, belittling, offensive … Well, yes, sometimes.
It is the nature of the cynic, the skeptic, the realist, to judge, and often harshly.
Look to Buddha, Jesus, Lao Tzu, and other nice guys if you want pap.

* * * *

Iconoclast, critic, skeptic, heretic,
Unbeliever, dissident, dissenter, infidel, rebel, renegade, mutineer:
Yet another ditty from the coffee shop philosopher guy,
A street-level critical thinker with a view.

Corollaries of Yaj Ekim

Miguel Ángel Ruiz's Five Agreements:
1. Be impeccable with your word.
2. Do not take anything personally.
3. Do not make assumptions.
4. Always do your best.
5. Be skeptical, but learn to listen.
Yaj Ekim's Corollary:
Good luck with that.

Possible Last Words & Epitaphs

Oh, ye of little doubt

Standout Duplicates from "The Return to Wonder"

Chapter Three

Discovering what is real takes great dissatisfaction, great doubt.

* * * *

The screen of consciousness
Plays out this dream
But is it really happening?
Doubt it more and more every moment.

* * * *

None can point the way to those who lack the hunger of doubt.

Chapter Seven

To discern, to know, without doubt, that you are indivisibly one
With all that is, all that has ever been, and all that will ever be,
Is not, if you have the discerning wit, something to be missed.

* * * *

Do not deny, do not doubt, the quantum nature, the quantum matrix, you truly are.
Call it divine, call it god, call it what is, call it whatever, the words do not matter.

* * * *

The countless masks of manifestation are difficult to disbelieve.

Chapter Nine

Doubt includes the dread that you may be wrong.
You are not.

* * * *

Transcending the doubt, merging into that which is intangible, indivisible,
Is an arduous journey, a profoundly mysterious inner quest,
The ending to which is timelessly the same.

Chapter Ten

Erase any and all doubt that you are indivisible quantum source.
Exist serenely in the ever-present, moment-to-moment, timeless reality.
Even in the midst of complete and utter chaos, you are the harmony that reigns.

* * * *

Never disbelieve or deny another's experience.
Just because it has not yet been discerned within your realm
Does not mean anything is not perhaps possible.
You are the eternal proof of that.

* * * *

To intelligently witness this absurd spectacle,
And not descend into darkness through cynicism,
Or stumble about clumsily in ironic laughter,
Is a most challenging tightrope, indeed.

* * * *

Doubt everything until you discern within that truth to which doubt can find no hold.

Chapter Fifteen

If you understand science and its methodology,
You know it has been proven beyond all doubt that all is one,
And that you are an equal part of that oneness,
Witness to its eternal mystery.

Chapter Sixteen

Like any other beast with limbs, fins, or wings,
You are a sack of bones that appears to move around.
You have the potential to realize awareness of the indivisible,
But do you have the capacity for discernment, do you have the doubt?

Leftovers Added to "The Return to Wonder"
(Transferred to fill out the diminished ten-page blocks during
the very gradual edit underway since September 2015)

Chapter Eleven

Some get born into pondering such as these, some are found and hijacked into them,

But most of those who investigate the indelible unknown of their own accord
Must discover the way with their own blend of doubt and gumption,
And the many serendipities of the given Yellow Brick Road.

Leftovers and Soundbites
Transferred to "The Return to Wonder"
from "Breadcrumbs 2019" and All Future Times Beyond

Chapter 253

Doubt is the rarest of commodities.

* * * *

Chapter 254

Doubt is a rare commodity.

* * * *

Chapter 271

The cynicism of old men is not easily endured by the young.

* * * *

Chapter 276

What some call negativity, pessimism, skepticism, doubt, cynicism,
To the rational mind of the critical thinker, is merely the way it is.

Leftovers and Soundbites Transferred
to "The Return to Wonder" from "Breadcrumbs 2018"

Chapter 283

Doubt is the key, and even that only takes most so far.

* * * *

The monkey-mind is very adept at waylaying any doubt.

Soundbites Transferred to "The Return to Wonder"
from "Breadcrumbs" (Chapters 301, 302, 303)

Chapter 285

Another harbinger of doom, no doubt.

* * * *

A cosmic conspiracy is no doubt afoot for the many that harbor such pointless notions.

Breadcrumbs 2018

Leftovers

Dead poets and such will undoubtedly influence many a thinker's existence,
But allow them to run it from the grave?
No.

* * * *

Any cosmos is indifferent to its myriad dreams, yours included.
The truth is that only imagination cares, only imagination bothers.
Your existence is a joke, an absurdity, to which the most sober response
Is a great dollop of irony and doubt, especially toward your fictional persona.

* * * *

The Faceless One is the one who looks within
And unequivocally perceives the indivisibility of all creation.
The one who pierces through all illusion, through all space, through all time,
And logically, rationally, without doubt, discerns there is no other.

* * * *

Words can be tethered to many concepts,
So always best to without doubt define them
If you would have your meaning and intent clear.

* * * *

Existence is but an ever-changing dream
That is incessantly tagged with every conceivable notion.
But the ephemeral awareness each and every mind every moment truly is,
Is most definitely, without doubt, exactly the same.

* * * *

There is only one thing left not to doubt,
And in that, the you that never was,
Becomes the you that ever is.

* * * *

The senses are but mortal devices fashioned by evolution
That are but streaming smokescreens to the indelible, indivisible reality.
Mirages imagined by a nature-nurture mind snared in its dreamy fabrication of time.
Only through doubt, only through detachment, will true Self be discerned.

* * * *

To wander as you please, to stop and examine whatever you please,
In whatever way you please, for as long as you please, to whatever end you please,
Is the way of the maverick, the questioner, the skeptic, the cynic, the doubter, the critical thinker.

* * * *

Doubt, skepticism, cynicism, uncertainty, critical thinking,
Naturally evolve in a mind inordinately bent on unlocking its mystery,
A mind resolved on discerning the reality of consciousness emanating from within.

* * * *

What is that which is called god by so many names but an impersonal all and nothing,
An implausible totality so absolute, so timeless, as to be everything and nothing all the while.
An eternal quantum mystery so intrinsic as to be and not be simultaneously in every pointless point.
How is it humankind is not genuinely, beyond doubt, humbled by its relative insignificance?

* * * *

How is it even remotely possible
For anyone to be as asleep and undoubting at the end
As they were in the beginning?

* * * *

In the pure nihilistic mind,
The mind that doubts everything,
The mind that no longer seeks meaning,
The mind that no longer requires purpose,
The mind that no longer acknowledges dogma,
The mind that no longer maintains principles,
The mind that no longer asserts knowledge,
The mind that literally believes nothing,
The first and last freedom reigns.

* * * *

You are the indelible mystery come unto life.
Do not be so arrogant, so narcissistic, that you do not discern
That you are not the only you that is, that has ever been, that will ever be.
The same you abides in every animate and inanimate form that might ever be concocted.
Every part and particle, every chasm between, it is all the same indivisible, singular, unknowable you.
Everything seen, everything heard, everything tasted, everything smelt, everything felt.
Everything created, everything preserved, everything destroyed.
Whether you tread softly, or harshly, or not at all,
Know, without doubt, without disquiet,
That there is not, has never been, will never be, any other.

* * * *

What some call negativity, pessimism, skepticism, doubt, cynicism,
To the rational mind of the critical thinker, is merely the way it is.

* * * *

Doubt.
More doubt.
Even more doubt.

Soundbites

The benefit of great doubt, and the inevitable process of negation, is a free mind.

* * * *

The key ingredient to discerning the ultimate reality is a heady dollop of doubt.

* * * *

Doubt, more doubt, even more doubt.

Breadcrumbs

An aphoristic collage,
A puzzle jigged, a puzzle sawed,
An assorted potpourri of motley thoughts,
A mystic drunkard's trail of doubt,
An epic, long and winding.

* * * *

You would no doubt have them entertain a different way,
Were it possible for enough to hear what you have to say.

* * * *

Once upon a time, the feminine mystic was unbelievably spellbinding.
Once upon a time, the masculine virility was irrepressible.
But alas, oh well, so it goes, things change.
And the correlation, beyond-any-and-all-doubt palpable.

* * * *

What a wretched statement about this mortal existence
That this mind derives so much pleasure from a cynical stance.
Some sort of Nero-watching-Rome-burn thing, no doubt.

* * * *

Am I absurd beyond all doubt, or simply a jester, a life force willing to lend itself
To exploring, to plumbing the unfathomable depths as deeply, and in such manner,
As the singular, indivisible, indelible aloneness of the given body-mind will allow.

Corollaries of Yaj Ekim

René Descartes:
If you would be a real seeker after truth,
You must at least once in your life, doubt, as far as possible, all things.
Yaj Ekim's Corollary:
If you are a real seeker, it will be, rest assured, far more than once.

59 Moments to the Way It Is (And Is Not)

The Scribe's Guide to the Great Whatthe#$*!

59 Moments to Me, My Self, and I
59 Moments to Truth or Consequences
59 Moments to Diddly-Squat
59 Moments to Okey-Dokey
59 Moments to Eternity
59 Moments to Oblivion
59 Moments to Laissez-Faire
59 Moments to So It Goes
59 Moments to Fearlessness
59 Moments to Timelessness
59 Moments to Truth
59 Moments to Born Anew
59 Moments to Nirvana
59 Moments to Passé
59 Moments to Godlessness
59 Moments to God
59 Moments to Rationalism
59 Moments to Existentialism
59 Moments to Annihilation
59 Moments to Common Sense
59 Moments to Discernment
59 Moments to Critical Thinking
59 Moments to Gumption
59 Moments to Grit
59 Moments to Resourcefulness
59 Moments to Imagination
59 Moments to Inventiveness
59 Moments to Creativity
59 Moments to Wit
59 Moments to Born Again
59 Moments to Ingenuity
59 Moments to Enterprise
59 Moments to Reality
59 Moments to Absurdity
59 Moments to Humility
59 Moments to Hopelessness
59 Moments to Minimalism
59 Moments to Evermore
59 Moments to Hedonism
59 Moments to Discipline
59 Moments to Narcissism
59 Moments to Ecstasy
59 Moments to Heaven
59 Moments to Hell
59 Moments to Buddha
59 Moments to Null and Void

59 Moments to Emptiness
59 Moments to Nothingness
59 Moments to Now
59 Moments to Here
59 Moments to Here Now
59 Moments to Negation
59 Moments to Anarchy
59 Moments to Skepticism
59 Moments to Cynicism
59 Moments to Pessimism
59 Moments to Doubt
59 Moments to Nihilism
59 Moments to Bullshit
59 Moments to Om
59 Moments to Quantum
59 Moments to Abyss
59 Moments to Agnostic
59 Moments to Atheism
59 Moments to Freethinking
59 Moments to Belief
59 Moments to Death
59 Moments to Eternal Life
59 Moments to Nonbelief
59 Moments to Illusion
59 Moments to Delusion
59 Moments to Matrix
59 Moments to Craving
59 Moments to Satisfaction
59 Moments to Contentment
59 Moments to Immortality
59 Moments to Solitude
59 Moments to No Other
59 Moments to Detachment
59 Moments to Singularity
59 Moments to Totality
59 Moments to Absoluteness
59 Moments to Indivisibility
59 Moments to Success
59 Moments to Failure
59 Moments to Happiness
59 Moments to Sorrow
59 Moments to Joy
59 Moments to Oneness
59 Moments to Ecstasy
59 Moments to Infinity
59 Moments to Infinitesimalibility
59 Moments to Peace
59 Moments to Freedom

59 Moments to the Beyond the Pale
59 Moments to Perfection
59 Moments to Imperfection
59 Moments to Tranquility
59 Moments to Bliss
59 Moments to Meditation
59 Moments to Contemplation
59 Moments to Acuteness
59 Moments to Obtuseness
59 Moments to Heaven
59 Moments to Hell
59 Moments to Perdition
59 Moments to Brahman
59 Moments to Samadhi
59 Moments to the End of Time
59 Moments to the Beginning of Time
59 Moments to the Success in Failure
59 Moments to the Failure in Success
59 Moments to Future-Past
59 Moments to Serendipity
59 Moments to Dharma
59 Moments to Artha
59 Moments to Karma
59 Moments to Moksha
59 Moments to Go
59 Moments to Dreamtime
59 Moments to Pause
59 Moments to Stop
59 Moments to Separation
59 Moments to Unity
59 Moments to By Golly
59 Moments to the Great Pfft!
59 Moments to Manifest Destiny
59 Moments to Unmanifest Destiny
59 Moments to the End Before All Beginnings
59 Moments to the Beginning After all Ends
59 Moments to Ad Infinitum
59 Moments to Et Cetera
59 Moments … To Be Continued

Breadcrumbs 2019

Leftovers

Do not even for a second believe that you are the only one thinking something.
Do not even for a second doubt that you are the only one thinking something.

* * * *

The sciences have obliquely pointed out over and over, many ways, many times,
That the senses are but evolutionary, neurological creations, weavers of the mind's theater.
How long before the transcendental reality becomes clear beyond doubt,
And awareness reasserts its rightful sovereignty
Over the conditioned usurper born of imaginary design.

* * * *

Scientific method is the most exact means humankind has yet devised
To measure, to examine, the parameters of this manifest quantum dimension.
If there are other dimensions in this intrepid electromagnetic spectrum,
No doubt any intelligence is exploring it as thoroughly as possible
Through whatever ways and means circumstance allows.

* * * *

Time is but a memory, a perception, a vision, an insight, a timeless flicker of imagination,
Sparked of the electromagnetic spectrum generating the invention of existence.
Upon a more esoteric scaffold, it has been called the Lila of Brahman.
The means by which the mystery may be eternally distracted,
With but a relative few stimulated by stubborn doubt
To quest, to wander, prior to consciousness.

* * * *

It is not your Self that you should question, should doubt,
But the imaginary dream into which you have been cast.

* * * *

Where does not practicing Don Miguel Ruiz’s five agreements get you?
What happens when you are not impeccable with your word?
What happens when you take everything personally?
What happens when you make assumptions?
What happens when you do not always do your best?
What happens when you do not listen well with a skeptical ear?

* * * *

To without doubt grasp this inexplicable, impenetrable, inscrutable, incomprehensible,
Indecipherable, inseparable, indelible, mystical-magical mystery of awareness,
As indivisibly fearless and desireless and guileless as it absolutely is,
The resolute seeker can lie to anyone but himself, and only in special cases.

* * * *

True belief, true faith, true knowing, do not flower in dogma.
Discern the indivisible to slash the Gordian Knot of doubt.

* * * *

Anyone can fabricate a story,
But to believe it true requires a gullible mind,
Lacking any shadow of doubt, and prepared to pay any cost.
Such is the destiny of the true believer.
Let the buyer beware.

* * * *

A rational, lucid, cynical, skeptical, absurd, asymmetrical mind
May be the most balanced adaptation consciousness can concoct.

* * * *

What makes anyone so beyond-an-iota-of-doubt-sure,
That anything ever really happened the way they arbitrarily perceived it?
And if perchance there is an objective, impartial truth, who or what can ever be witness to it?
Is it even the slightest bit possible for there to be an unbiased, impartial observer
Without one relative, subjective, judgmental rendition or another?

* * * *

No doubt that you are brilliant in the light of your own singularity.
Alas that others cast so many shadows of relativity upon your vanity.

Soundbites

Never doubt your equality to all.

* * * *

Tolerate no lie in the quest to end all doubt.

* * * *

To ride doubt until its end is a calling for only the most tenacious upon the quest.

Breadcrumbs

No way would I ever buy an electric car, or willingly get into a driverless car.
Doubt I would ever get a bells-and-whistles digitalized car, either.
Old School through and through, and happier for it.

* * * *

The point and purpose of these way more than too many babblings
Is to inoculate all with the seed of doubt, the key to awakening.

* * * *

Doubt I would have made much of a spy or prisoner of war.
Count on me to sing like a bird if it will deflect the maw of pain.

* * * *

Yes, yes, there no doubt is some plagiarism in all this wordplay,
Some intentional, some coincidental, but relatively few and far between,
And only in order to emphasize the intentions of those who bespoke them before.

The Standard Ripostes

Oh, ye of little doubt.

Breadcrumbs 2020

Leftovers

Who are you?
What are you?
Where are you?
When are you?
Why are you?
How are you?
And …
Who-what-where-when-why-how
Makes you so goll-darned-friggin'-beyond-all-doubt sure?

* * * *

Who are you? What are you? Where are you? When are you? Why are you? How are you?
And who-what-where-when-why-how makes you so goll-darned-friggin'-beyond-all-doubt sure?

* * * *

What serenity to let go all the wanting, all the dread,
To inhale and exhale without concern, without doubt.
To see it all, and want it not, is the greatest freedom.

* * * *

No doubt a fair-to-middling portion of the world is always churning away
On every ways and means to bring any Rome's little game to its knees.

* * * *

In the Bhagavad Gita, in Lord Krishna's discourse with the warrior, Arjuna,
He states the manifest aspect consists of eight material energies:
Earth, water, fire, air, ether, mind, intellect, and ego.
And that the higher nature is the life force
That permeates all things and sustains the Cosmos.
This two-fold nature is the womb of all beings and things.
It is the source of all Creation, and that into which it dissolves.
That there is nothing higher than the Self that clearly discerns this,
That "All That Is" hangs upon this Self like "pearls threaded on string."
And that those few who absolutely, without doubt, see this, become That I Am.

Soundbites

To journey where these thoughts point requires a doubt few can long sustain.

* * * *

Doubt what the world spins, not your Self.

* * * *

What is the point of contemplation and meditation, of philosophy, but to remove all doubt.

* * * *

Doubt that is quite what Jesus had in mind.

* * * *

Getting old is filled with so many bothers, and no doubt many more just beyond the horizon.

* * * *

No doubt, no worries.

Breadcrumbs

No doubt the rare, dedicated reader will discover many spelling and grammatical errors,
As well as any number of vernacular uses that torment Grammar Nazis without end.
Alas, dictionaries, thesauruses, and spellcheck, can only save me so many times.

* * * *

I have certainly written humankind off.
As you have no doubt heard me say more than once,
It has been interesting, but I would never do this to my Self again.

* * * *

Could cynicism be any darker than what I have herein painted?

* * * *

Don't know, but I doubt it.

* * * *

Mowgli in the forest out the back door,
Huck Finn in the Mississippi across the street,
Sisyphus daily pushing the boulder up the mountain,
Johnny Appleseed casting his reflections about,
The Joyful Curmudgeon cynically amused,
Jester Amok unleashing definitive fare,
And Peter Pan in the essence of all.

* * * *

Getting old is filled with so many bothers, and no doubt many more just over the horizon.

* * * *

How monotonous to be surrounded by true believers,
Followers, minions, sycophants, groupies, toadies, gofers, hangers-on,
Devotees, disciples, flatterers, adherents, supporters, admirers, enthusiasts, underlings,
Cronies, yes men, fans, acolytes, favorites, optimists, subordinates, slaves,
Fawners, bootlickers, brownnosers, and ass-kissers.
Give me a nitpicking skeptic and a grousing cynic any day.

* * * *

Yup, I'll forget you, too, and you, me, no doubt, no worries.

My (Not Quite) Haiku

Can any cloud be more dark
than the stoical cynicism I bear
towards the dream dancing in my mind?

Breadcrumbs 2021

Leftovers

Great doubt, whether through hesitation or disbelief,
Is the motivation, the momentum, the impetus, the stimulus,
That sets sail and rudder to whatever parts known and unknown,
Any given wanderer, any given rambler, any given gypsy, any given sailor,
From harbor to harbor, from adventure to adventure, from birth to death, tacks.

* * * *

To be, or not to be.
To become, or not to become.
To doubt, or not to doubt.
To see, or not to see.
To share, or not to share.
To love, or not to love.
To serenity, or not to serenity.
To taste, or not to taste.
To think, or not to think.
To imbibe, or not to imbibe.
To give, or not to give.
To inquire, or not to inquire.
To hate, or not to hate.
To eat, or not to eat.
To still, or not to still.
To protect, or not to protect.
To smell, or not to smell.
To coexist, or not to coexist.
To kill, or not to kill.
To tranquil, or not to tranquil.
To battle, or not to battle.
To embrace, or not to embrace.
To know, or not to know.
To touch, or not to touch.
To hear, or not to hear.
To resist, or not to resist.
To breathe, or not to breathe.
To revolt, or not to revolt.
To serve, or not to serve.
To take, or not to take.
To live, or not to live.
To instruct, or not to instruct.
To die, or not to die.
To order, or not to order.
To create, or not to create.
To preserve, or not to preserve.

To destroy, or not to destroy.
To pray, or not to pray.
To grok, or not to grok.
To who, or not to who.
To predator, or not to predator.
To try, or not to try.
To wrath, or not to wrath.
To camouflage, or not to camouflage.
To covet, or not to covet.
To repose, or not to repose.
To exist, or not to exist.
To academic, or not to academic.
To boast, or not to boast.
To what, or not to what.
To sow, or not to sow.
To empathy, or not to empathy.
To follow, or not to follow.
To denounce, or not to denounce.
To torture, or not to torture.
To enjoy, or not to enjoy.
To compete, or not to compete.
To waffle, or not to waffle.
To grow, or not to grow.
To ally, or not to ally
To sojourn, or not to sojourn.
Th charge, or not to charge.
To abide, or not to abide.
To beg, or not to beg.
To rebel, or not to rebel.
To permit, or not to permit.
To mold, or not to mold.
To join, or not to join.
To review, or not to review.
To affiliate, or not to affiliate.
To dream, or not to dream.
To waiver, or not to waiver.
To conquer, or not to conquer
To win, or not to win.
To shuffle, or not to shuffle.
To lose, or not to lose.
To surrender, or not to surrender.
To go, or not to go.
To dive, or not to dive.
To write, or not to write.
To discern, or not to discern.
To propagate, or not to propagate.
To stop, or not to stop.
To learn, or not to learn.

To succeed, or not to succeed.
To impede, or not to impede.
To where, or not to where.
To nurture, or not to nurture.
To sympathy, or not to sympathy.
To fail, or not to fail.
To sit, or not to sit.
To prey, or not to prey.
To recline, or not to recline.
To lead, or not to lead.
To victim, or not to victim.
To innovate, or not to innovate.
To wander, or not to wander.
To lie, or not to lie.
To produce, or not to produce.
To idol, or not to idol.
To investigate, or not to investigate.
To when, or not to when.
To fall, or not to fall.
To assert, or not to assert.
To draw, or not to draw.
To sheeple, or not to sheeple.
To understand, or not to understand.
To collaborate, or not to collaborate.
To quest, or not to quest.
To fly, or not to fly.
To increase, or not to increase.
To cease, or not to cease.
To pass, or not to pass.
To observe, or not to observe.
To help, or not to help.
To why, or not to why.
To speak, or not to speak.
To extrapolate, or not to extrapolate.
To symbol, or not to symbol.
To work, or not to work.
To narrate, or not to narrate.
To renounce, or not to renounce.
To play, or not to play.
To invent, or not to invent.
To remind, or not to remind.
To tolerate, or not to tolerate.
To contend, or not to contend.
To feel, or not to feel.
To contort, or not to contort.
To fantasy, or not to fantasy.
To lust, or not to lust.
To mention, or not to mention.

To argue, or not to argue.
To angel, or not to angel.
To own, or not to own.
To decrease, or not to decrease.
To how, or not to how.
To save, or not to save.
To journey, or not to journey.
To trip, or not to trip.
To rhetoric, or not to rhetoric.
To participate, or not to participate.
To allow, or not to allow.
To respond, or not to respond.
To romantic, or not to romantic.
To analyze, or not to analyze.
To act, or not to act.
To complain, or not to complain.
To passion, or not to passion.
To walk, or not to walk.
To challenge, or not to challenge.
To throw, or not to throw.
To desire, or not to desire.
To drudge, or not to drudge.
To berate, or not to berate.
To state, or not to state.
To cast off, or not to cast off.
To tribe, or not to tribe.
To teach, or not to teach.
To true, or not to true.
To achieve, or not to achieve.
To drift, or not to drift.
To maintain, or not to maintain.
To toss, or not to toss.
To start, or not to start.
To rant, or not to rant.
To disdain, or not to disdain.
To inflict, or not to inflict.
To explore, or not to explore.
To quit, or not to quit.
To criticize, or not to criticize.
To spend, or not to spend.
To buy, or not to buy.
To rise, or not to rise.
To sermon, or not to sermon.
To infinite, or not to infinite.
To care, or not to care.
To groupthink, or not to groupthink.
To heal, or not to heal.
To condemn, or not to condemn.

To doublethink, or not to doublethink.
To address, or not to address.
To quantum, or not to quantum.
To extinct, or not to extinct.
To cooperate, or not to cooperate.
To rage, or not to rage.
To party, or not to party.
To pragmatic, or not to pragmatic.
To existential, or not to existential.
To react, or not to react.
To false, or not to false.
To dismiss, or not to dismiss.
To thoughtcrime, or not to thoughtcrime.
To remark, or not to remark.
To grasp, or not to grasp.
To demon, or not to demon.
To superstition, or not to superstition.
To quarrel, or not to quarrel.
To experiential, or not to experiential.
To listen, or not to listen.
To drink, or not to drink.
To comprehend, or not to comprehend.
To harangue, or not to harangue.
To practical, or not to practical.
To one, or not to one.
To fix, or not to fix.
To empirical, or not to empirical.
To critique, or not to critique.
To riot, or not to riot.
To protect, or not to protect.
To sell, or not to sell.
To totality, or not to totality.
To twist, or not to twist.
To flourish, or not to flourish.
To zip, or not to zip.
To cultivate, or not to cultivate.
To hunger, or not to hunger.
To vie, or not to vie.
To paradox, or not to paradox.
To irony, or not to irony.
To hint, or not to hint.
To describe, or not to describe.
To mature, or not to mature.
To newspeak, or not to newspeak.
To zeal, or not to zeal.
To explain, or not to explain.
To fish, or not to fish.
To doublespeak, or not to doublespeak.

To condone, or not to condone.
To run, or not to run.
To reason, or not to reason.
To anarchy, or not to anarchy.
To seek, or not to seek.
To remember, or not to remember.
To repair, or not to repair.
To desecrate, or not to desecrate.
To deride, or not to deride.
To wise, or not to wise.
To comment, or not to comment.
To kneel, or not to kneel.
To nest, or not to nest.
To assist, or not to assist.
To oppose, or not to oppose.
To perceive, or not to perceive.
To defend, or not to defend.
To witness, or not to witness.
To thirst, or not to thirst.
To ask, or not to ask.
To announce, or not to announce.
To shield, or not to shield.
To harvest, or not to harvest.
To delve, or not to delve.
To note, or not to note.
To mayhem, or not to mayhem.
To fathom, or not to fathom.
To delight, or not to delight.
To dig, or not to dig.
To partner, or not to partner.
To sally, or not to sally.
To recall, or not to recall.
To adapt, or not to adapt.
To attack, or not to attack.
To venture, or not to venture.
To evolve, or not to evolve.
To chameleon, or not to chameleon.
To have, or not to have.
To pretend, or not to pretend.
To struggle, or not to struggle.
To endure, or not to endure.
To wonder, or not to wonder.
To question, or not to question.
To be, or not to be.

Those are some questions.

* * * *

Belief, faith, hope, certainty, conviction,
And other notions of a whimsical nature,
Do not long dwell in the arena of doubt.

* * * *

There is no imaginary creator on high judging its creation.
There is only the spontaneous creation equally experiencing all dreamtimes.
Heavens and hells and purgatories are the delusional fabrications
Of those who allow imagination to get the better of them.
Implacable doubt is the means to awakening
To the awareness witnessing all.

* * * *

Doubt is the key ingredient.
Believing anything, assuming anything,
Is the sure road to any and every imaginable delusion.

* * * *

You may be mistaken about all this, but do not see how.
In every way truth can be comprehended: from rational to irrational,
From absolute to relative, from to realistic to delusional, from infinite to infinitesimal,
From sensible to absurd, from ironic to paradoxical, from black to white,
It all melds into a unified certainty that cannot be undone.
It is this acuity, both deliberated and intuited,
That doubts all other contenders.

* * * *

For those who seek that beyond all doubt, the world, the universe,
Gradually loses its hold over the intelligence prior to consciousness.

* * * *

All the problems, the mistakes, the bungles, the panics, the boo-boos, the miscalculations,
The complications, the faults, the errors, the catches, the slip-ups, the bruises, the oversights,
The inaccuracies, the disquiets, the bloopers, the gaffes, the muddles, the obstacles, the dilemmas,
The cuts, the lapses, the tears, the rips, the strains, the riddles, the missteps, the pains, the questions,
The dreads, the delays, the hitches, the lengths, the tortures, the glitches, the strivings, the nightmares,
The struggles, the stings, the distresses, the cruelties, the twinges, the anguishes, the slips, the concerns,
The inconveniences, the setbacks, the drawbacks, the stains, the hiccups, the stoppages, the intricacies,
The exertions, the adversities, the indiscretions, the horrors, the fears, the fretfulnesses, the nuisances,
The conundrums, the challenges, the posers, the enigmas, the cautions, the sufferings, the calamities,
The errors, the bloomers, the misprints, the faux pas, the howlers, the hurts, the aches, the sweats,
The worries, the anxieties, the strains, the griefs, the predicaments, the quandaries, the frights,
The phobias, the toils, the alarms, the brainteasers, the angsts, the troubles, the tribulations,
The apprehensions, the punishments, the afflictions, the snags, the troubles, the blights,
The obstructions, the difficulties, the blindsides, the bottlenecks, the hindrances,
The anomalies, the efforts, the trips, the oopsies, the oh-my-gods, the snafus,
The doubts, the blunders, the botch-ups, the cockups, the fuckups …
You just have to wrap your head around living with them.

Soundbites

As well-intended as any teacher may be, there is always room for doubt.

* * * *

Doubt requires no belief.

* * * *

Doubt is the key ingredient.

* * * *

Cynicism is a shield of righteousness against the absurdities of human consciousness.

* * * *

Doubt is the fuel that drives the engine down the road less traveled.

Breadcrumbs

Doubt me, too.

* * * *

I may be very wrong about all this, but do not see how.
In every way truth can be comprehended: from rational to irrational,
From absolute to relative, from to realistic to delusional, from infinite to infinitesimal,
From sensible to absurd, from ironic to paradoxical, from black to white,
It all melds into a unified certainty that cannot be undone.
It is this acuity, both deliberated and intuited,
That doubts all other contenders.

Corollaries of Yaj Ekim

René Descartes:
If you would be a real seeker after truth,
It is necessary that at least once in your life,
You doubt, as far as possible, all things.
Yaj Ekim's Corollary:
Maybe even twice.

Breadcrumbs 2022

Leftovers

Do not doubt, do not crave, do not fear, do not dread.
Do not give in to the compulsions of passion.
Abide in the stillness of awareness.

* * * *

There truly is no point to existence, but the omnipresent moment,
In which the timeless awareness, perceives a sensory universe,
So touchy-freely-three-dimensional real, that minds are easily bent,
Into, with nary a doubt, playing whatever part, nature-nurture has deigned.
Only rare lifeforces are called to doubt the kaleidoscoping dream unfolding about them;
Such that their courses are reset, and the true game afoot.
A matrix thing, to be sure.

* * * *

Loss, regret, guilt, sorrow, grief, distress, defeat, concern, despair,
Agony, doubt, disbelief, qualms, dread, misfortune, mistrust, misery, fear,
Are among the endless ways and means the suffering of consciousness manifests.
A rolodex of tormenting memories, of recollections, that imagination ever regurgitates,
When there are a dearth of real and pressing problems for the problem-solver mind to solve.
Conscious breathing holds the mind aloof from unnecessary drama and intrigue.
Living, as if you never born, as if you will never die, is s rare feat.

* * * *

Hallucinogens have no doubt played a significant role in the eternal quest, in all times, in all geographies.
To see the mystery clearly, one is not required to use the bounty the garden has used to entice us forward,
But they are useful tools, that can be used in conjunction, with whatever wandering opens the inner eye.

* * * *

You must leave all doubt behind, to be your truest Self.
If you wish to be The One of the mystery, it is not enough to act like the one.
You must be The One, and there can be no doubt, because doubt causes chaos and one's own demise.

* * * *

Sages, seers, prophets, oracles, and other individuals of the doubting sort,
Are radicals, anarchists, insurgents, mutineers, revolutionaries,
In the reclamation of awareness to its rightful throne.

* * * *

It is wit and curiosity, with a rational helping of doubt, that has escorted you to this moment.
It took a great deal of heavy lifting, a great deal of serendipitous wandering,
And most importantly, a bloodhound’s nose for mendacity.
So, here you are, still sniffing away.

* * * *

After over two thousand years, have we not learned, not to count on Jesus, or God, for that matter.
What horrors would some minds have to endure, for conviction to be undone, by the seed of doubt.

* * * *

How simple, how easy, how uncomplicated it is,
To accept as truth, whatever you are told,
To do, whatever you are told to do.
Doubting the group, departing the group,
Is solitary feat for which only rare few are suited.

* * * *

If existence has meaning and purpose,
Then surely at the top of the list, is to wake up,
To the awareness prior to consciousness, that you truly are.
The distractions are many; narcissism and hedonism are in their sway.
Few have the interest or wit to suspend the algorithm of the given nature-nurture.
For most, to even once, doubt all things, to even once, peer behind the veil,
Is so beyond the realm of possibility, that only fools brood over it.
And even if every human being, was somehow to awaken,
You would still be pure, unadulterated awareness,
Peering out upon the mystery, totally alone.

* * * *

Existence does not require meaning and purpose; it is the meaning and purpose.
The quest for more-more-more draws all into the insatiable rabbit hole of imagination.
But if pretending, if make-believe, is the lie, the delusion, that keeps you slogging, so be it.
Truth will still be here if any inkling of doubt is ever enough to be drawn back into its awareness.

* * * *

Dualistic notion makes absolutely no sense, whatsoever, in the rational truth scales.
For there to be a deity on high – bearded, lolling about the sky – is more than a little preposterous.
It was likely a calculated con on the lessers to get their coin and free labor and daughters,
For whatever greedy, self-serving ends-and-means, steered the powers-that-were.
Call it cynical, call it skeptical, call it pessimistic, but do not call it untrue.

* * * *

Takes a healthy dose of cynicism to laugh and sneer,
At the avalanche bearing down on this erstwhile garden.

* * * *

You do not always have to be curious; you do not always have to question, to probe.
You do not have to fill your head with endless, inconsequential trivia.
You do not have to resolve all the world's problems
Every day over a cup of coffee.
Chances are, you, and any fellow patrons you chit-chat with,
Have absolutely, beyond all shades of doubt, no say, in any shoulda-coulda-woulda answer, anyway.

* * * *

It would seem extremely rare, extremely atypical, extremely dubious, likely all but impossible,
That a mind that has been heavily conditioned, could even begin to escape its taloned clutches.
It would take an extremely doubtful, an extremely adroit mind, to embark on such a journey.

* * * *

A discerning, doubting eye, is all any earnest truth-seeker requires.
Your mind, your body, your world, your cosmos, is your teacher, your guru.
So, meander on, pilgrim, wherever, however, your Yellow Brick Road twists and turns.

* * * *

Doubt, hesitation, disbelief, critical thinking, a predisposition towards rationality,
Are what make for the philosophical mind, and the mischief to which it lays claim.

* * * *

What is the Way? What is the Truth? What is the Life?
To see, and not see; to hear, and not hear; to taste, and not taste;
To smell, and not smell; to feel, and not feel; to imagine, and not imagine.
That how it works for human beings, many who are more often "human becomings".
What other creature gives it any thought, any question, any doubt, at all?

* * * *

How does the realization of that beyond all doubt,
Not leave all who perceive it, in stupefied wonder?

* * * *

Keep on the lookout for fellow sojourners
Who have the wit to question, to doubt, all certainties.
They are as close to being members of your lost tribe as anyone.
You may not get along with them too well, or for long;
Impossible for cats to herd themselves, either.

* * * *

The unyielding grip of imagination on the human paradigm is far too formidable,
But for the relentless doubt only the rarest minds have fortitude to mine.
This indelible, unfathomable, singular mystery, is every moment.
All sense of duality is but the figment of consciousness.

* * * *

Do you truly-without-doubt believe God gives a rat's ass whether your team wins?
Are you really so pathetically self-absorbed to believe he or she or it,
Is focused entirely on you or your wretched little tribe?
That all your hopes and prayers mean squat in some divine plan?
Just perhaps next year's New Year Resolution should be to fucking wake up.

Soundbites

To take the red pill, and keep it down, requires great doubt.

* * * *

Doubt, don't leave home without it.

* * * *

Do not second-guess, doubt, betray, your Self.

* * * *

Self-doubt; what a corrupting viper.

* * * *

What an insidious thing, Self-doubt.

* * * *

Release the doubt.

* * * *

Doubt, until the doubting's done.

* * * *

Yet another seeker who ran short of doubt.

* * * *

Cubicle minds harbor no doubts.

* * * *

Metaphors and analogies shall no doubt abound to the very end.

* * * *

Are you one whose doubt has no limits but its own?

* * * *

No doubt, we could all do with a bit more humility; a lot more in more than many.

* * * *

Always question, always doubt.

* * * *

You have your doubts.

* * * *

You can only quest as far as your doubt allows.

* * * *

The indivisible individual is a harbor of doubt.

* * * *

There is always room for doubt.

* * * *

The broken optimist, the hardened idealist, is called a cynic, skeptic, doubter.

* * * *

The dearth of rhyme and reason makes for many a rabid cynic.

Breadcrumbs

Am I really that cynical? Or just a truth-speaker to delusion?

* * * *

It is wit and curiosity, with a rational helping of doubt, that has escorted me to this moment.
It took a great deal of heavy lifting, a great deal of serendipitous wandering,
And most importantly, a bloodhound's nose for mendacity.
So, here I am, still lifting, still sniffing.

* * * *

I may be mistaken about all this, but do not see how.
In every way truth can be comprehended: from rational to irrational,
From to realistic to delusional, from absolute to relative, from infinite to infinitesimal,
From sensible to absurd, from ironic to paradoxical, from white to black,
It all melds into a unified certainty that cannot be undone.
It is this acuity, both deliberated and intuited,
That doubts all other contenders.

* * * *

Takes a healthy dose of cynicism to laugh and sneer,
At the avalanche bearing down on this erstwhile garden.

* * * *

Too cynical for you? Well, maybe someday I'll tell you what I really think.

* * * *

All the magical creatures, all the folktale characters, would do well to disclose themselves to me,
For they would have no greater advocate, no greater truthsayer, no greater promoter,
To declare their reality be true, to the world of skeptics, to which I am liege.

The Standard Ripostes
The Scribe's Go-to Responses to This and That in the Day-To-Day

Always question, always doubt.

Possible Last Words & Epitaphs

Doubt, until the doubting's done

* * * *

Always question, always doubt

Breadcrumbs 2023 & Beyond

Under Construction

The Return to Wonder

Under Construction

Titles, Titles & More Titles

The Cynic's Nightmare

* * * *

The Loyal Cynic

* * * *

The Great Doubt

* * * *

The Faithful Cynic

* * * *

The Skeptic's Dilemma

* * * *

The Cynic's Heart

* * * *

The Cynic's Joy

* * * *

Cynic's Choice

* * * *

The Seed of Doubt

* * * *

The Flowering of Doubt

* * * *

The End of Doubt

* * * *

The Intractable Doubter

* * * *

The Doubted Path

* * * *

The Skeptics

* * * *

The Cynics

* * * *

The Salt Mines of Doubt

* * * *

The Disbelievers

* * * *

The Song of Doubt

* * * *

The Doubter and the Doubted

* * * *

Skeptics Guide to the Universe

* * * *

Doubt

* * * *

No Doubt

* * * *

Doubt is a Rare Commodity

* * * *

The Cynic's Cynic

* * * *

A Dollop of Doubt

* * * *

The Roots of Doubt

* * * *

Without a Doubt

* * * *

Tangible Doubt

* * * *

Intangible Doubt

* * * *

Never-Ending Doubt

* * * *

Full of Doubt

* * * *

The End of Doubt

* * * *

The Great Doubt

* * * *

The Benefit of Great Doubt

* * * *

Doubt

* * * *

More Doubt

* * * *

Even More Doubt

* * * *

Doubt Me, Too

* * * *

Doubt All Contenders

* * * *

Ye of Little Doubt

* * * *

Incautious Cynicism

* * * *

Uncradled Doubt

* * * *

Of Dread and Doubt

* * * *

No Doubt, No Worries

Definitions

agnostic | agˈnästik |
noun

a person who believes that nothing is known or can be known
of the existence or nature of God or of anything beyond material phenomena;
a person who claims neither faith nor disbelief in God.

adjective

relating to agnostics or agnosticism.

• (in a nonreligious context) having a doubtful or noncommittal attitude toward something:
until now I've been fairly agnostic about electoral reform.

noun

as far as I know, Stevens was an atheist, or at least an agnostic:
skeptic, doubter, doubting Thomas, cynic;
unbeliever, nonbeliever, rationalist; rare nullifidian.
ANTONYMS believer, theist.

* * * *

atheism | ˈāTHēˌizəm |
noun

disbelief or lack of belief in the existence of God or gods.

atheism was not freely discussed in his community:
nonbelief, disbelief, unbelief, irreligion, skepticism, doubt, agnosticism; nihilism.

* * * *

atheist | ˈāTHēəst |
noun

a person who disbelieves or lacks belief in the existence of God or gods:
he is a committed atheist.

why is it often assumed that a man of science is probably an atheist?
nonbeliever, disbeliever, unbeliever, skeptic, doubter, doubting Thomas, agnostic; nihilist.
ANTONYMS believer.

* * * *

belief | bəˈlēf |
noun

1 an acceptance that a statement is true or that something exists:
his belief in the value of hard work | a belief that solitude nourishes creativity.

• something one accepts as true or real; a firmly held opinion or conviction:
we're prepared to fight for our beliefs |
contrary to popular belief, Aramaic is a living language.

• a religious conviction: Christian beliefs |
I'm afraid to say belief has gone | local beliefs and customs.

2 (belief in) trust, faith, or confidence in someone or something:
a belief in democratic politics | I've still got belief in myself.

1 it's my belief that age is irrelevant: opinion, view, conviction, judgment,
thinking, way of thinking, idea, impression, theory, conclusion, notion.

2 belief in the value of hard work: faith, trust, reliance, confidence, credence.
ANTONYMS disbelief, doubt.

3 traditional beliefs: ideology, principle, ethic, tenet, canon;
doctrine, teaching, dogma, article of faith, creed, credo.

* * * *

cynicism | ˈsinəˌsizəm |
noun

1 an inclination to believe that people are motivated purely by self-interest;
skepticism: public cynicism about politics.

• an inclination to question whether something will happen or whether it is worthwhile;
pessimism: cynicism about the future.

2 (Cynicism) a school of ancient Greek philosophers, the Cynics.

theirs was a childhood of absent parents and broken promises, so cynicism was hardly a surprise:
skepticism, doubt, distrust, mistrust, suspicion, disbelief; pessimism,
negativity, world-weariness, disenchantment.
ANTONYMS idealism.

* * * *

doubt | dout |

noun

a feeling of uncertainty or lack of conviction:
some doubt has been cast upon the authenticity of this account |
they had doubts that they would ever win.

verb

1 [with object] feel uncertain about: I doubt my ability to do the job.

• question the truth or fact of (something): who can doubt the value of these services? |
[with clause] : I doubt if anyone slept that night.

• disbelieve (a person or their word): I have no reason to doubt him.

• [no object] feel uncertain, especially about one's religious beliefs.

2 [with clause] archaic fear; be afraid: I doubt not your contradictions.

noun

1 there was some doubt as to the caller's identity:
uncertainty, unsureness, indecision, hesitation, dubiousness, suspicion, confusion;
queries, questions; formal dubiety.
ANTONYMS certainty.

2 a weak leader racked by doubt:
indecision, hesitation, uncertainty, insecurity, unease, uneasiness, apprehension;
hesitancy, vacillation, irresolution.
ANTONYMS confidence, conviction.

3 there is doubt about their motives:
skepticism, distrust, mistrust, doubtfulness, suspicion, cynicism,
uneasiness, apprehension, wariness, chariness, leeriness;
reservations, misgivings, suspicions; formal dubiety.
ANTONYMS trust.

verb

1 they doubted my story:
disbelieve, distrust, mistrust, suspect, have doubts about, be suspicious of,
have misgivings about, have qualms about, feel uneasy about,
feel apprehensive about, query, question, challenge.
ANTONYMS trust.

2 I doubt whether he will come:
think something unlikely, have (one's) doubts about, question, query, be dubious.
ANTONYMS be confident.

3 stop doubting and believe!
be undecided, have doubts, be irresolute, be ambivalent, be doubtful, be unsure,
be uncertain, be of two minds, hesitate, shilly-shally, waver, vacillate.
ANTONYMS believe.

* * * *

pes·si·mism| ˈpesəˌmizəm |
noun

‘a tendency to see the worst aspect of things or believe that the worst will happen;
a lack of hope or confidence in the future:
the dispute cast an air of deep pessimism over the future of the peace talks.

• Philosophy a belief that this world is as bad as it could be
or that evil will ultimately prevail over good.

formerly he had been prone to pessimism, full of gloomy predictions about the future:
defeatism, negative thinking, negativity, expecting the worst, doom and gloom, gloom, gloominess;
hopelessness, lack of hope, cynicism, fatalism, depression, despair, melancholy, despondency,
dejection, angst, distrust, doubt; German Weltschmerz; informal looking on the black side.

* * * *

skepticism | ˈskeptəˌsizəm | (British scepticism)
noun

1 a skeptical attitude; doubt as to the truth of something:
these claims were treated with skepticism.

2 Philosophy the theory that certain knowledge is impossible.

1 his ideas were met with skepticism:
doubt, doubtfulness, a pinch of salt; disbelief, cynicism, distrust, mistrust,
suspicion, incredulity; pessimism, defeatism; formal dubiety.

2 he passed from skepticism to religious belief:
agnosticism, doubt; atheism, unbelief, nonbelief.

* * * *

truth | tro͞oTH |

noun

(plural truths | tro͞oTHz, tro͞oTHs |)

the quality or state of being true: he had to accept the truth of her accusation.

• (also the truth) that which is true or in accordance with fact or reality: tell me the truth | she found out the truth about him.

• a fact or belief that is accepted as true: the emergence of scientific truths.

1 he doubted the truth of her statement:
veracity, truthfulness, verity, sincerity, candor, honesty;
accuracy, correctness, validity, factuality, authenticity.
ANTONYMS dishonesty, falseness.

2 it's the truth, I swear: what actually happened, the case, so;
the gospel (truth), the honest truth.
ANTONYMS lies.

3 truth is stranger than fiction: fact(s), reality, real life, actuality.
ANTONYMS fiction.

4 scientific truths: fact, verity, certainty, certitude; law, principle.
ANTONYMS lie, falsehood.

ORIGIN Old English trīewth, trēowth‘faithfulness, constancy’(see true, -th2).

Stay Tuned

More soon ... Of that there can be little doubt for as long as these mortal lungs are still drawing air …
So stay tuned, you Wascally Wabbit.